FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT COMMUNION SUNDAY DECEMBER 21, 2014

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude and Acolyte

Children's Choir

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Stephenson Family

Call to Worship

From Micah 5:2-5

Leader: "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are ancient times.

People: Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.

Leader: He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord, his God,

People: And they will live securely, for then His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth, and He will be their peace."

Leader: My heart praises the Lord;

People: My soul is glad because of God my Savior.

Leader: His name is Holy.

People: He shows mercy to those who honor Him.

* Opening Hymn

"Joy to the World"

179

Confession of Sin (In Unison)

O God of Hope, You have chosen us as Your own, You gave Your only Son to call us to love one another as You have loved us. We come to You this morning Your people redeemed through Your Love and Grace. Forgive us for falling short of Your Glory, may we come to You like the Wise Men did so many years ago and offer up our best to You, O Lord. Pour out Your Spirit on us anew, that we may obediently proclaim the depth, the breadth, the height, and the length of Your love that passes all measure.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: Joy to the world! The Messiah is come!

People: Glory to God, through the Christ-child we are redeemed!

*Responsive Hymn

"Away in a Manger"

205

*Affirmation of Faith Red Hymnal, Page 12

"The Apostle's Creed"

Giving of His Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology Prayer of Dedication *Hymn # 34*

Old Testament Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 9:6-7

Anthem

"Once In Royal David's City"

Travis and Brittany Jones and DeEtta Wood

Musical Interlude for Children's Church & Kid's Krusade

(Children's Church ages 4 thru 2nd grade led by Heather Ennis and Julie Marley, Kid's Krusade 3rd grade thru 5th grade with Stephanie Bagley)

Morning Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

New Testament Scripture Lesson

I Corinthians 13:12-13

Sermon "The Greatest Love"

Rev. Jim Davis

* Preparation Hymn "Let Us Break Bread Together"

599

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Prayer and Words of Institution

Communion of God's People

(We celebrate communion this morning and invite you to partake of the bread as you receive it – but please hold the cup so we may drink together)

*Dedication Hymn

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

193

*Acolyte and Benediction

* Postlude

December Scripture Passage

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

^{*} Passing of the Peace of Christ (please begin the pew pads)

^{*}Signifies Congregation to Stand

Ministers of Providence Presbyterian Church The People of Providence Presbyterian Church

Pastor

| | Rev. Jim Davis | S | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Session | | |
| Long Range Planning Nathan Dry | Class of 2014 Congregational Wayne Lamm | Care | Fellowship Gary Phillips |
| Finance Kristy Stephenson | Class of 2015 Mission/Outread Margie Taylor | reach Christian Ed. Youth | |
| Christian Ed. Children Pers Beth Breeden Pete I | | Worship/Clerk David Nelms | Property Steve Nordan |
| | Staff | | |
| Accounting Treasurer Ann Stephenson | | Collections Treasurer Ann Benson | |
| Music Director/Organist Brittany Jones | | <i>Pianist</i> DeEtta Wood | |
| <i>Website</i> David Nelms | Usher Coordinator Russell Wood | | |
| Mary Ann Booth | Secretary Group Donna Stolle | 1 | |

Honoring our history.....building our future

Copy Group

LaVette Morgan Ann Stephenson Margie Taylor Mary Ann Booth

Wookly Statistics

| weekly Statistics | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--|
| \$17,203.76 | | | |
| \$17,114.59 | | | |
| \$11,586.10 | | | |
| \$3,670.00 | | | |
| \$965.00 | | | |
| \$535,212.13 | | | |
| \$1,278,094.69 | | | |
| \$165,588.66 | | | |
| \$910,624.46 | | | |
| 86 | | | |
| 141 | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Church Office Holiday Schedule – The church office will be closed December 29 through January 1.

Message from Finance Officer

To ensure we are in compliance with IRS guidelines for tax exempt organizations, Session has adopted a Guidelines for Giving and Fundraising document. The document may be found on the church's website; additionally, copies are available in the Narthex.

Year End Finance Reminders:

- Contributions eligible for 2014 tax deductions must be receive/postmarked by December 31, 2014
- Stewardship cards for 2015 General and Capital Campaign giving should be turned in to Ann Benson. Cards are available in the Narthex.
- As we approach the end of the third year of the Capital Campaign, we have collect 65% of total pledged monies.

Prayer List -- As has always been a part of worship at Providence, we ask for people or situations to be lifted up during the pastoral prayer. This will continue. If, however, you want their name placed on the prayer list printed in the bulletin, please contact Mary Ann Booth (mabooth1@gmail.com or 919-275-456). Also, when you ask to take someone off the list, let Mary Ann know. When a secretary is in place in the new facility, this will be the procedure we will follow, using the secretary as the point of contact.

Advent Schedule

Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Services

Wednesday, December 24 5:00 PM 10:00 PM

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Joy Gift offering will be collected today. A gift to the Christmas Joy Offering helps provide financial assistance to current and former church workers and their families and also enables deserving students to attend Presbyterian-related racial ethnic colleges and schools. Please consider giving to this offering.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Assisting in Worship this Sunday:

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Wayne Lamm **Ushers:** Beth Pickens and Carolyn Stephenson

Acolyte: Mary Elaine Wood **Nursery:** Eric and Lori Smith

Children's Church Teacher: Heather Ennis Children's Church Helper: Julie Marley Kids Krusade Teacher: Stephanie Bagley

Assisting in Worship next Sunday, December 28

Elder of the Month/Greeter: Wayne Lamm

Ushers: Pat Davis and Elaine Wood

Acolyte: Graycen Murray

Nursery: Richard and Andrea Jones

Children's Church Teacher: Heather Ennis Children's Church Helper: Christy Cross Kids Krusade Teacher: Stephanie Bagley

CHURCH CALENDAR

Today at Providence:

9:45 am: Sunday School for Children and Youth

10:25 am: Fellowship Time **11:00 am:** Worship Service

Weekly Events:

December 23. Newsletter Submissions Deadline

December 24. Christmas Eve Communion and Candlelight Services

at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

PRAYER LIST OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

JOYS: We give thanks for the willing hearts and hands of the volunteers among our congregation whose service and enables our ministries; cares for the sick, the poor, and elderly; and enriches our spirit.

CONCERNS:

Carol Frickman, UNC Cancer Center, leukemia, sister-in-law of Todd Frickman

Members of the Providence Family in Long-Term Care:

Brack Johnson at Classic Care Assisted Living in Smithfield, Lacy and Marilyn Johnson at Barbour Court Nursing in Smithfield, Pauline Jones, at Liberty Commons in Benson, Grant Joyner, Bobbie Langdon, and Frances Schmidt at home.

Persons Living with Cancer, including:

Vicky Austin, community, Sherry Baker, friend of Laura Langdon, Cheryl Beckham, friend of Laura McLamb, Jerry Benson, Randy Benson's cousin, Nancy Biernacki, friend of Bob Zattiero, Patsy Bowman, member of church family, Edith Bowser, friend of Bob Zattiero, Mickey Carroll, cousin of Kelly Nordan, Richard Davis, friend of Elaine Wood, Ann Hargis, member of community, P.B. Jernigan, relative of Sheila Dupree, Joey Johnson, friend of Randy Benson. Paula Johnson, friend of Dave and Edythe Nattrass, Luke Jordan, friend of Christina Jones, Keith Langdon, member of church family, Carol Mayben, Sandy Kopanski's sister-in-law, Stacy Meadows, friend of Beth Wolak, Jackie Parker, friend of Amy Dupree, Jennifer Pearce, friend of Janice Parrish, Ben Snelling, friend, of John Kopanski, Randy Stephenson, Jon Nooney's cousin, Chad Talley, friend of John Pickens, Karen Tew, friend of DeEtta Wood, Wayne Toler, Dorothy Nesselrodt's brother-in-law Tammy Vann, friend of Sandy Kopanski, Corv Watt, friend of Jeff Wood, Kenneth Weathers, brother-in-law of Wendy Stephenson, Orene Wilburn, Becky Kleaver's sister-in-law, DeEtta Wood, member of church family, and Hannah **Youngblood,** friend of Kristy Stephenson

Persons with Ongoing Health Concerns, including:

Levon and Nancy Allen, Sheila Dupree's parents, Mary Bass, Rev. Davis' mother, Velma and Ray Bost, grandparents of Heath White, Charlie & Mary Burke, Steve Wolak's parents, Lynn Cross, member of church family, Skylar Duquette, Wendy Stephenson's great niece, Ed Fontana, Mary Langdon's father, Fred Ipock, Cathy Creech's father, Melinda Kendall, member of church family, Norbert Kopanski, John Kopanski's father, Stuart Kremer, friend of Andrea Jones, Phil Langdon, Mel Langdon's brother Vic LaSaxon, Chris Nooney's brother-in-law, Wanza Mayben, Sandy Kopanski's mother, Sue Nicholson, Chris Nooney's sister, Jon Nooney, member of church family, Chellie Poston, former member, Kathy Rose, friend of Kim Schmidt, Kathy Ryals, community, Donald Salmon, Wendy Stephenson's brother-in-law, Gwen Walton, member of church family, and John Wright, Chris Nooney's father

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services – Two communion services will be offered on Wednesday, December 24. . Please join us at 5 PM or 10 PM to worship.

Newsletter Deadline – The deadline for submissions to the January Newsletter is December 23. If you have an announcement you want included, please send to Dave Nelms at dnelms44@gmail.com.

Service Project - Mary Elaine Wood is working on a Confirmation Service Project that includes interviews of church members. If you would like to be interviewed, please contact Beth Breeden at 919-624-1633 by January 1st to arrange a time.

Youth Retreats – **Summer of 2015** – Any youth interested in attending the youth retreats this summer should have their deposit paid by January 11, 2015.

- **Middle School** youth who have completed 6th thru 8th grades will go to Massanetta Springs July 9 12. The non-refundable deposit is \$50 and due Sunday, January 11, 2015.
- **High School** youth who have completed 9th thru 12th grades will go to Fun in the Son, Hilton Head, SC July 13 18. The non-refundable deposit is \$100 and due by January 11, 2015.

Youth Mission Trip - June 14 – 20, 2015 – Middle or High School youth interested in participating in the mission trip this summer need to submit their \$89 deposit by January 11, 2015.

Church Secretary - Providence Presbyterian Church is seeking a Christian individual to serve as part-time secretary. In addition to the responsibilities in the Job Description shown on our the website, this individual will need to have good people skills and feel comfortable dealing with both church members and the general public. A working knowledge of Microsoft Word is required, and familiarity with Microsoft Excel would be a plus. Apply at www.providencepresb.org and click on the Employment tab. Position closes January 31, 2015.

January Senior Luncheon will be Tuesday, Jan. 13, 2015 at Johnson Memorial Church 8280 NC Hwy 50 N. at 12 noon. Please make your reservations with Kay Dry (kaydry@embarqmail.com or 919-639-9784) by Wednesday, January 7th so the number in attendance can be reported to Johnson Memorial. The Senior Luncheons will meet each month of 2015 except July and October. Looking forward to another fun year of Senior Citizens' luncheons!

POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT

December 21, 2014

Given by Liz Annis and Alisha, Paul and Brian Gillespy

In Memory of Robert W. Gillespy

Given by Randy, Ann and Austin Benson

In Honor of George Coates

In Memory of Shelton Benson, Kathleen Benson, and Helen Coates

Given by Pete and Mary Ann Booth

In Honor of Steve Nordan and Kristy Stephenson

Given by Shepherd and Brenda Byrd, Kim, Willie, Michelle, Mark, and Maddox

In Memory of Shepherd and Florence Byrd, Sr.

Given by Nathan and Kay Dry

In Honor of Nancy and Tom Nelms

In Memory of Jesse and Doris Dry; Cloniger and Vera Young

Given by Andy and Sheila Dupree

In Memory of Allen Dupree and Brian Allen

Given by Don and Brenda Dupree

In honor of Amy and Connor Dupree; Donna and David Murphy

In Memory of Leon and Vearl Stephenson; Alfred and Agnes Dupree

Given by Joe and Gloria Dupree

In Memory of Ruth Dupree Lassiter

Given by Wayne, Heather, Chance & Mady Ennis

In Honor of Berlene Ennis

In Memory of Earl Ennis; Mary Etta and James Hartley; Loretta and Manly McGee; & Ruby and Ernest Ennis

Given by Ron and Tammy Horton

In Honor of DeEtta Wood and Family

Given by Wade and Carolyn Johnson

In Honor of Virginia Moore

In Memory of Mary Johnson; Luman Moore; & John and Mandy Moore

Given by Becky Kleaver

In memory of William Kleaver

Given by Joan S. Littleton

In Memory of William C. and Allene E. Stuart

Given by Beck and Laura McLamb

In Honor of Gerald and Ellen Sutton

In Memory of Hampton and Charlotte McLamb

Given by LaVette C. Morgan

In Memory of John Cooke; Robert Morgan; & Owen and Lourae Cooke

Given by David and Lisa Nelms

In Honor of Our Parents; Ryan and Allison Nelms; & Eric, Christina and Dylan Jones

In Memory of Brenda Davis and Our Grandparents

Given by Mark, Pam, and Kendall Nelms

In Honor of Tom and Nancy Nelms

In Memory of Buddy and Nannie Ruth Kendall

Given by Tom and Nancy Nelms

In Memory of Annie and Valmond King; Hattie Buffaloe; & Euna and Ellis Nelms

Given by Ryan and Allison Nelms

In Honor of Randy and Pam Parrish; David and Lisa Nelms

In Memory of Papa; Papa Jake; & Granny King

Given by Dorothy Nessselrodt

In Honor of my family

In Memory of Rev. Julian D. Nesselrodt

Given by Frank and Betsy Olive

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. David C. Stephenson and Miss Nannie Coates

Given by Janice Parrish

In Honor of the Adult Choir

Given by Gary and Georgeanna Phillips and Family

In Memory of Dr. William L. Ellis; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Phillips and Janice Phillips; and D. J. Johnson

Given by John and Beth Pickens

In Honor of our children, Jane and Stewart

In Memory of our family's loved ones

Given by Bob and Nadine Reed

In Honor of Ray Manuel

In Memory of Gladys Manuel; Ed A. Harvey; Mr. & Mrs. Loyd Reed; Mr. & Mrs. W.L. Reed; Mr. & Mrs. John Dempsey; Les Healey; Billy Reed; Micky Reed; and Janet Reed

Given by Ann K. Stephenson

In Memory of W. Paul Stephenson, Jr.; Valmond & Annie King

Given by Sam and Wendy Stephenson

In Honor of Ann Stephenson; Marilyn and Lacy Johnson; and Chellie Poston

In Memory of Alice N. and J.C. McLeod; Paul Stephenson; and Jean Stephenson

Given by Carolyn J. Stevenson

In Honor of Diana, Sharon and Families In Memory of Lois and Chris Johnson

Given by Ashton and Adam Stuart

In Honor of our Grandparents

Given by the Stuart Family

In Memory of Patrice Rassmussen

Given by Rick and Margie Taylor

In Memory of Eva Lee Taylor; Norma Grey Sauls Parson; Bernard Clifton Parson; and Paul Andrew Taylor

Given by Rosyval and Barbara Walton

In Honor of Kent, Gwen, Courtney and Abbey Walton

In Memory of Palmon and Alice Stephenson; Eugene and Vera Stephenson

Given by Steve and Beth Wolak

In Honor of all military veterans, all active military; and all military families

Poinsettias for Advent

December 21, 2014